initially the State Government submitted a proposal for Rs. 849.0734 crores for five years (2007/08 to 2011/12) including Rs. 168.461 crore for 2007-08. Subsequently, the State revised its Annual Plan for 2007-08 to Rs. 30.50 crores. Against this an amount of Rs. 11.3362 crore was allocated. Under RKVY, Rs. 46.59 crore has been allocated to the State for the year 2007-08.

International factors inducing farmer suicides

801. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has analyzed the causes that led to suicide by farmers in some States; if so, what are the findings of the survey;

(b) whether it is a fact one of the reasons that led to suicides by farmers is that agriculture has become unremunerative to them following increase in the prices of inputs and element of sophistication due to international factors; and

(c) if so, whether Government is considering any proposal to give remunerative price to the farmers for the agricultural produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) There is no survey specifically undertaken by Government of India to analyze the causes that led to suicide by farmers. However, the State Governments have broadly reported crop failure, indebtedness, drought, social and economic insecurity as causes for committing suicide by farmers.

(b) and (c) The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. The price policy also seeks to evolve a balanced and integrated prices structure in the perspective of the overall needs of the economy. Towards this end, the Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies. The designated central nodal agencies are required to intervene in the market for undertaking procurement operations with the objective that the market prices do not fall below the MSPs fixed by the Government. The Government decides on the support price for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries as well as such other relevent factors which are considered important for fixation of support prices.

Loss of crops due to severe cold waves

802. DR. V. MAITREYAN:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the effect of severe cold conditions prevailing in the country to the standing crops, State-wise;

(b) the total loss of crops both in quantity and value due to the erratic weather situation in the country, State-wise;